

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name Martha E Randolph
Phone 808-284-0264
Email merandhi@gmail.com
Meeting Date 02-22-2017
Council/PH Committee Council
Agenda Item Bill 22
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Organization
Organization Democratic Precinct 4 District 25
Do you wish to speak at the hearing? Yes

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From personal experience I know how valuable it was for me to have access to low cost spaying which only cost me \$20 because I had an EBT card. I was able to rescue 2 feral cats, socialize them (I believe they had been pets at one time but were thrown out by uncaring or ignorant owners once they came into heat) and now they are my pets. But the humane society does not offer low cost spaying for found cats, only for feral cats. I did not want to put my new pets in metal cages and bring them in at 7 AM to be traumatized and ear notched. I was able to make an appointment with POI DOGS AND POPOKI to have both of them fixed at \$20 each because I have an EBT card. I also have Medicaid and no taxable income but without the subsidized option I could not have afforded to do the responsible thing. I once bought a neuter certificate for \$50 and discovered that every Vet on the list added extra unlisted charges to the cost (as much as \$100 for boarding, or additional shots etc) making the whole thing one great big scam. If you want to encourage people to do the responsible thing and get pets fixed you have to make it REALLY affordable, NOT fake affordable. Perhaps you could also give Vets who honor the certificate as it is some kind of tax break but only if they do not add on extra charges. I realize there is a feral animal problem in Hawaii, but the solution must be multifaceted and low cost subsidized neutering is a very important part of the program.

Testimony
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